

AN ACT

relating to prohibiting certain limitations on the operation of certain organizations that benefit veterans during a declared state of disaster.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

SECTION 1. Section 418.012, Government Code, is amended to read as follows:

Sec. 418.012. EXECUTIVE ORDERS. (a) Under this chapter, the governor may issue executive orders, proclamations, and regulations and amend or rescind them. Executive orders, proclamations, and regulations have the force and effect of law.

(b) An executive order, proclamation, or regulation issued by the governor under this chapter that restricts the operation of or the hours of operation for a business that sells alcoholic beverages may not include an organization exempt from federal taxation under Section 501(a), Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as an organization described by Section 501(c)(19) of that code, that benefits veterans of the United States armed forces.

SECTION 2. Section 418.012, Government Code, as amended by this Act, applies only to a declaration of a state of disaster issued or renewed on or after the effective date of this Act. A declaration issued before the effective date of this Act is governed by the law in effect immediately before the effective date of this Act, and that law is continued in effect for that purpose.

1           SECTION 3. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives  
2 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as  
3 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this  
4 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this  
5 Act takes effect September 1, 2023.

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President of the Senate

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Speaker of the House

I certify that H.B. No. 558 was passed by the House on May 2, 2023, by the following vote: Yeas 144, Nays 0, 3 present, not voting.

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Chief Clerk of the House

I certify that H.B. No. 558 was passed by the Senate on May 17, 2023, by the following vote: Yeas 29, Nays 2.

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Secretary of the Senate

APPROVED: \_\_\_\_\_

Date

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Governor